## Amendments to the Specification

***Page 1, immediately after the title, please insert:***

This application is a divisional of Serial No. 09/463,158 filed January 20, 2000, which is a U.S. national stage of International Application No. PCT/GB98/02151 filed July 20, 1998.

***Page 14, lines 3-10, please rewrite as follows:***

The surface expression of this protein is likely to be under translation regulation. Transfected cells which expressed high levels of mRNA did not always express correspondingly high levels of the protein on their surface. (Landowski, et al., 1995). Microspectrofluorometry and videomicroscopy experiments having demonstrated that the binding of elastin or the active peptide VGVAPG (SEQ ID NO: 7) to aortic smooth muscle results in a transient increase in free intracellular $Ca^{2+}$. This suggests that cell surface laminin or elastin binding protein acts as a true receptor mediating intracellular signalling (Hinek, 1994).

***Page 22, lines 13-23, please rewrite as follows:***

With regard to the protein ESRP1, the preferred nucleic acid molecule comprises a nucleotide fragment identical to or complementary to any portion of ~~any one of~~ the nucleotide ~~sequences~~ sequence shown in the accompanying ~~Figure 7~~ Figure 6 or a sequence which is degenerate or substantially homologous therewith, or which hybridises with the said sequence. By 'substantially homologous' is meant sequences displaying at least 50% sequence homology, preferably 60% sequence homology. 'Hybridising sequences' included within the scope of the invention are those binding under standard non–stringent conditions (6 X SSC/50% formamide at room temperature) and washed under conditions of low stringency (2 x SSC, room temperature, or 2 x SSC, 42°C) or preferably under standard conditions of higher stringency, e.g. 0.1 x SSC, 65°C (where SSC = 0.15M NaCl, 0.015M sodium citrate, pH 7.2).

***Page 37, line 21, please rewrite as follows:***

Figure 6. Sequence of the ESRP1 gene (SEQ ID NO: 1).

**Page 37, line 22, please rewrite as follows:**

Figure 7. Predicted protein sequence for the ESRP1 protein (SEQ ID Nos: 2-4).

***Page 46, lines 5-8, please rewrite as follows:***

Forward and Reverse primers each 25 pM (Forward: GTA GAC CCA AGC TTT CCT GGA GCA TGT CAG TAT AGG AGG (SEQ ID NO: 5); Reverse: CTG CTC GAG CGG CCG CAT GCT AGC GAC CGG CGC TCA GCT GG (SEQ ID NO: 6); Perkin Elmer) Taq Plus DNA polymerase (Stratagene) 1 Unit; cDNA template 2 µl; $dH_2O$ up to 50 µl.

***Page 47, lines 18-23, please rewrite as follows:***

Eight cDNA clones were purified and sequenced. As discussed above, clones 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 were found to code for a secretogranin 1 like protein; clones 3.1, 4.1 and 5.1 coded for a 67kd laminin receptor-like protein; clone 5.2 coded for a new molecule that has been named ESRP1 (endocrine secretion regulatory protein 1). The nucleotide sequence of ESRP1 is given in ~~Figure 7~~ Figure 6, and the predicted amino acid sequence that it encodes is shown in ~~Figure 6~~ Figure 7.

## IN THE SEQUENCE LISTING

Please insert the attached Sequence Listing in the application papers.